
From: [Carole](#) [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2013 8:39 PM
To: Kari Kren
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Advanced Technologies in Food Production EAL project

Hi Kari,
I just spoke to Eecole and we both wonder why working at Monsanto (Jennie Schmidt) and the International Food Information Council Foundation (Marianne Smith Edge) would not disqualify one from being involved with this evidence review? What kind of conflict of interest would disqualify someone? Perhaps it is possible for someone who works for an organization that creates or promotes GMOs be objective, however, that would be hard to do. We are trying to understand the process so please be patient with our questions!

<http://www.foodinsight.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1465>
<http://www.foodinsight.org/about-ific-and-food-safety.aspx>

Thanks so much for your time,

[REDACTED]

Carole Bartolotto, MA, RD

[REDACTED]

From: Kari Kren [REDACTED]
To: Carole A Bartolotto [REDACTED]
Cc: Lisa Moloney [REDACTED], Paula Ziegler [REDACTED]
Date: 02/11/2013 11:10 AM
Subject: RE: Advanced Technologies in Food Production EAL project

Carole,

In response to your concern-

A relationship with a company does not automatically eliminate a candidate from an EAL workgroup. Please read the Evidence-Based Practice Committee's policy excerpt below:

i) **Conflict of interest:** To uphold the integrity of the ACADEMY evidence analysis process, conflict of interest is considered. Candidates who are compensated by companies, organizations, or enterprises that may benefit from the outcome of the evidence analysis can be considered. In the case that two members or more members are selected, each will be from a different company, organization, or enterprise. Conflict of interest will not eliminate a candidate from being eligible for appointment.

Further the candidates for each workgroup are scored using a methodological process and then final selections are made during a conference call of the selection sub-committee (see the attached scoring sheet for reference).

Sometimes those who work in industry have the most expertise on topic so these candidates may score well.

That being said, the conflict of interest/disclosure form is reviewed and taken very seriously in the consideration.

Understandably, as a standard policy the content of the selection sub-committee's discussions and scoring is kept confidential and we do not provide any specifics about the specific candidate selection process.

As you know each workgroup member is expected to uphold the agreements made on the signed conflict of interest/disclosure form. If you feel this is not happening throughout the course of the project, please let me know.

Hope this helps.

Kari

Kari Kren, MPH, RD, LD

Manager, Evidence-based Practice

Research & Strategic Business Development

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Ms. Carole Bartolotto, MA, RD

March 22, 2013

Dear Ms. Bartolotto,

The Workgroup Selection Subcommittee of the Evidence Based Practice Committee has thoroughly reviewed updated COI statements and CVs of the ATFP workgroup during a March 15, 2013 teleconference. Prior to the call, web searches were conducted for each of the work members to verify that all potential conflicts had been disclosed.

Through this web search, the subcommittee discovered that your professional consulting practice at <http://healthyeatingrocks.com> had not been disclosed in your original nor updated CV or COI. The website's content may have relevance to the deliberations of the workgroup.

Up to date and complete disclosure is essential for the management of any conflict of interest during the Evidence Analysis Process. This improves transparency and assists the workgroup in recognizing potential for bias.

Due to your failure to disclose the aforementioned, you have been dismissed from the workgroup.

We thank you for your time and work with ATFP workgroup thus far and we wish you the best in your future endeavors. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Bill Swan, RD, LDN, LD
Chair, Workgroup Selection Subcommittee
Vice Chair, Evidenced Based Practice Committee



Paula Jean Ziegler, PhD, RD, CFCS
Senior Director, Research and Evidence Analysis